

De Moivre's Theorem

Rule: $(r \operatorname{cis} \theta)^n = r^n \operatorname{cis} (n\theta)$

A proof of sorts: Consider $(r \operatorname{cis} \theta)^4$.

$$\begin{aligned}(r \operatorname{cis} \theta)^4 &= r \operatorname{cis} \theta \times r \operatorname{cis} \theta \times r \operatorname{cis} \theta \times r \operatorname{cis} \theta \\&= r^2 \operatorname{cis} (\theta + \theta) \times r^2 \operatorname{cis} (\theta + \theta) \\&= r^4 \operatorname{cis} (2\theta) \times \operatorname{cis} (2\theta) \\&= r^4 \operatorname{cis} (4\theta)\end{aligned}$$

Example 1: Use De Moivre's Theorem to work out $(4 \operatorname{cis} 60^\circ)^3$.

$$(4 \operatorname{cis} 60^\circ)^3 = 4^3 \operatorname{cis} (3 \times 60^\circ) = 64 \operatorname{cis} 180^\circ$$

Example 2: Instead of using repeated multiplication, use De Moivre's Theorem to work out $(2 + 5i)^4$.

- First convert $(2 + 5i)$ to polar form using Graphics Calculator:
- $r = \operatorname{Abs} (2 + 5i) = 5.385$
- $\theta = \operatorname{Arg} (2 + 5i) = 68.2^\circ$
- Therefore $(2 + 5i) = 5.385 \operatorname{cis} (68.2^\circ)$
- $(2 + 5i)^4 = (5.385 \operatorname{cis} 68.2^\circ)^4 = 5.385^4 \operatorname{cis} (68.2^\circ \times 4)$
 $= 841 \operatorname{cis} (272.8^\circ)$
- Now convert back to rectangular form:
- $841 \operatorname{cis} (272.8^\circ) = 841 \cos(272.8^\circ) + i 841 \sin(272.8^\circ)$
 $= 41 - 840i$

* Note: The answer in rectangular form should be whole number integers (having expanded $(2 + 5i)^4$ which should not result in decimals), so round the values of $841 \cos(272.8^\circ)$ and $841 \sin(272.8^\circ)$ to whole numbers.

Delta Ex 32.3 pg 296 Q 1, 2. Extension Q 3 – 7.